

foundational principles of a free and open society. To that end, I am introducing today a resolution that affirms the role of freedom of religion in a democracy and expresses the Sense of Congress that enactment of the On Freedom of Conscience and On Religious Association law violates internationally accepted standards of human rights. In addition, this resolution affirms the action of the House and Senate conferees on the Foreign operations appropriations bill in including language to prohibit the Federation from receiving funding assistance unless the Federation certifies that the new law is not implemented.

Mr. Speaker, Russia has come a long way from its authoritarian Czarist and Soviet roots. Let us encourage her officials and her people to continue on the path toward a free and open society by passing this resolution and condemning a return to regulation of thought and belief that hindered the country's progress for so many centuries.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE KING

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to George King for being the U.S. Tennis Association national champion and for his support of California's children. Dr. King exemplifies a champion athletically, socially and professionally.

George King has participated in U.S. Tennis Association events since 1985. Currently, King is a competitor in the 30 and over division and held their the No. 1 ranking in 1992 and 1993. It was during these years that King won his back to back national championships.

Dr. King's accomplishments are not limited to the court. He is committed to his family and to the children of California. Specifically, Dr. King competes annually in the Northern California Pro Am, of which the proceeds benefit junior tennis programs. He also assists with the instruction and teaching of juniors at the Fig Garden Swim and Racquet Club, his home court. Finally, Dr. King is a member of Rotary International and supports their college scholarship and youth exchange programs. Professionally, Dr. King maintains two dentistry practices that serve the communities of Fresno and Livingston. These two offices offer a full range of dental services.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Dr. George King for his tennis accomplishments and his support of California's children. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. King many more years of success.

IN HONOR OF THE 25 ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPANISH SPEAKING PROGRAM OF KEAN UNIVERSITY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding educational program, the Spanish speaking program of

Kean University—which has served the needs of the growing population of adults in the community. On October 25, 1997, the Spanish speaking program of Kean University will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a dinner-dance celebration at Kean University, college center cafeteria in New Jersey.

The Spanish speaking program was founded in 1972 to respond to the needs of Hispanic students who needed to achieve greater proficiency in English to pursue a college education. The program has played a very important role in the academic and personal development of the Hispanic student population and the Hispanic community itself. The Spanish speaking program has provided a clear pathway for students to progress into the regular curriculum.

The Spanish speaking program is administered by a dedicated group of professionals under the guidance of Dr. Ronald L. Applbaum, president, and Dr. Orlando Edreira, director. For two decades, this program has been meeting the needs of limited English proficient Hispanics. This program was the first of its kind in U.S. higher education, and it has provided opportunity and access to more than 5,000 students in its 25-year history. The program provides an environment for the fostering of pride and reward for personal dedication and accomplishment.

It is an honor and a pleasure to be part of this celebration and also be able to recognize the dedication and commitment of the Spanish speaking program. Communication is now more important than ever. Being able to know more than one language is no longer a privilege, but a necessity. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to this remarkable program.

RECOGNIZING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a major activity that will occur in a few weeks in the Township of Lawrence, NJ as part of the Township's tricentennial celebration.

Over the past 300 years Lawrence Township has been and continues to be a patriotic town, dedicated to recognizing the events and people of its Township that have made the United States a free country. Some of the community's ancestors are signers of the Declaration of Independence. Other former and present residents have fought in the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and the World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, and the gulf. The men and women of Lawrence have often given their lives in the service of our Nation.

On November 8 the Lawrence Township Veterans Memorial Committee will join the Township of Lawrence to honor those who served this country. I would like to take this opportunity to commend and thank the citizens of Lawrence for their efforts to help keep this country free. I would also like to congratulate the Township on its 300th anniversary, a milestone deserving of our recognition.

TRIBUTE TO PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW OF CONSTANTINOPLE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople who began his visit to the United States in Washington, DC this week. I welcome Patriarch Bartholomew to the United States on behalf of the Greek Orthodox community in the San Fernando and Conejo Valleys and look forward to his visit to Los Angeles in November.

Patriarch Bartholomew, the 27th successor of the Apostle St. Andrew and the spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians, is a man of extraordinary abilities and achievements who speaks seven languages. My colleagues and I honored His All Holiness with the award of the Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his contributions to world peace, ecumenism, and the protection of the global environment. Patriarch Bartholomew has met with government and religious leaders in the Balkans, the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East in efforts to promote peace and an interfaith dialog. His All Holiness is a champion of religious freedom who has fought against all forms of persecution.

Patriarch Bartholomew is equally committed to the protection and preservation of the Earth's environment for future generations. He has sponsored several international conferences on the environment, including an upcoming summit in Santa Barbara, and has led conservation efforts in the Black Sea. These efforts have earned him the title, "the Green Patriarch."

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to have His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew visit the United States and to have the President bestow upon him the Congressional Gold Medal. He joins only five other religious leaders, including the late Mother Theresa, who have been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor of the U.S. Congress.

IN PRAISE OF SANTA MARIA

HON. WALTER H. CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, the vitality of our Nation depends upon the vitality of the towns and cities of which it is made up. One such vital city is Santa Maria, CA, in the district I represent.

Thirty of the citizen leaders of Santa Maria were in the Capital this week. This group represented an extraordinary cross section of entrepreneurs, farmers, government officials, social service providers, educators, and civic activists. As a result of this visit, these Santa Marians know Washington better than before and, perhaps more importantly, Washington has a better understanding of Santa Maria.

Mr. Speaker, we face many challenges in this country while at the same time we are surrounded by immense opportunities. This is the case in Santa Maria. I'm proud that this